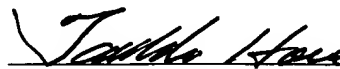


REMARKS:

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication in the Office Action that claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. According to the Examiner's suggestion, in the above amendment, Applicants have incorporated claim 5 into claim 2, which was the base claim of claim 5. It is therefore believed that claim 2 as incorporated with claim 5 is now allowable.

Applicants have added new claims 6-17. According to the newly added claims, after a receiver establishes frame synchronization in receiving frames of data having a frame configuration, the receiver requests the sender to modify the frame configuration of the data being received by the receiver. In response, the sender starts sending the receiver data in frames having a frame configuration modified as requested by the receiver. When the receiver receives the data in frames having the frame configuration so modified, the receiver reconfigures itself so as to establish frame synchronization in receiving the data in the modified frame configuration. These features of the present invention is not disclosed or taught by none of the cited references including Mallory. Therefore, the newly added claims are believed to be allowable over the cited references.

Respectfully submitted,



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